,	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
Notice of Allowability	10/007,106		WU ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	T
	Mark Trembla	av l	2876	
The MAILING DATE of this communication ap All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-8 NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.3 1. This communication is responsive to 2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-30. 3. The drawings filed on are accepted by the Exam 4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority u a) All b) Some* c) None of the: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents he 2. Certified copies of the priority documents he 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).	ppears on the cov. IS (OR REMAINS, 85) or other appropriately appropriately and MPEP 130 and MPEP 130 and MPEP 130 are been received, ave been received documents have b	rer sheet with the co CLOSED in this apportate communication plication is subject to 08.	errespondence addr elication. If not include will be mailed in due withdrawal from issu	ed course. THIS ie at the initiative
* Certified copies not received: 5. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority (a) The translation of the foreign language provisiona 6. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of the complex part of the complex priority.	al application has by under 35 U.S.C. § of this communication of this application.	een received. \$ 120 and/or 121. Ition to file a reply cor THIS THREE-MON	mplying with the requ TH PERIOD IS NOT	EXTENDABLE
8. CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted. (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No (b) including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed, which has been approved by the Examiner. (c) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the top margin (not the back) of each sheet. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson. 9. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.				
Attachment(s) 1⊠ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 3⊠ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5⊠ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. 7□ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	4[6[8[☐ Interview Summar ☐ Examiner's Amend	Patent Application (P y (PTO-413), Paper I Iment/Comment nent of Reasons for A	No

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Applicant: Wu et al.

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Filing date: 12/10/2001

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U. S. Published Patent Application #2003/0055526 to Avanzino et al. is cited for showing a wafer monitoring system using a wireless network.

U. S. Patent #6,330,971 to Mabry et al., U. S. Patent #5,389,769 to Yamashita et al., U. S. Patent #4,974,166 to Maney et al., U. S. Patent #4,827,110 and U. S. Patent #4,588,880 to Hesser are cited for showing an RFID system combined with a wafer carrier.

U. S. Patent #5,866,024 to de Villeneuve is cited for showing a CAM system using RFID.

U. S. Patent #4,500,080 to Aigo is cited for showing an electronic tag used with a wafer carrier.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-30 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art fails to teach or suggest the combination of the claimed elements. As evidenced by the prior art of record, managing the automated manufacture of semiconductor wafers has become a crowded art. There are numerous systems to choose from when performing this task, and a vast number of possibilities for combining known systems into a whole. Applicant has deviated from typical setups in several respects: the use of off-the-shelf identification smart cards of the type used for personal identification is a well developed art, but it is not typically applied to inanimate objects such as wafer carriers. Systems such as Mabry, Yamashita, Maney, etc. typically rely on fixed readers. Aigo teaches the use of electronic tags of the type that might be termed "identification cards" but does not teach the use of wireless cards, the portable reader, or the interruptible network. Since the method of Aigo has fallen out of favor in the art, as evidenced by the most recent references, it would be improper hindsight for Examiner to suggest that the artisan would

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find it obvious to modify the most recent art such as Mabry to use portable, wireless smart card readers, that have an interruptible connection to the network.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Voice

Inquiries for the Examiner should be directed to Mark Tremblay at (703) 305-5176. The Examiner's regular office hours are 10:30 am to 7:00 pm EST Monday to Friday. Voice mail is available. If Applicant has trouble contacting the Examiner, the Supervisory Patent Examiner, Michael Lee, can be reached on (703) 305-3503. Technical questions and comments concerning PTO procedures may be directed to the Patent Assistance Center hotline at 1-800-786-9199 or (703) 308-4357.

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MARK TREMBLAY PRIMARY EXAMINER

March 24, 2003